Snow Removal, Sanding and De-Icing Plan

The Curry County Road Department is responsible for the maintenance of more than 225 miles of roads. This means that during a snowstorm that is countywide, although extremely rare, there are more than 550 lane miles to be covered for snow clearing, sanding and or de-icing.

Commonly Asked Questions

How much snow has to fall before the County responds?
Plowing will usually begin wherever approximately two inches of snow has accumulated on the road. Sanding may begin whenever, and wherever, slick areas develop. As a general rule, except in emergencies, the County does not plow or sand at night.

Which roads get plowed/sanded/de-iced first?
In general, we will first treat the roads that carry the highest commuter traffic volumes and school bus routes (arterial and main collector roads). The schedule may be changed if especially hazardous conditions exist at other locations.

Will the County clear the snow berm off my driveway or in front of my mailbox while plowing?
No. It is the owners’ responsibility to clear the berm off of their own driveway and to clear the access for mail delivery to mailboxes located beyond the edge of the roadway. The priority of the County is to clear the roadway for safe travel.

Will the County plow/sand/de-ice on my road if it is not County maintained?
No. Owners of these roads, known as local access roads, are responsible for their road’s maintenance. Whenever there is an unforeseen, genuine life threatening fire or medical emergency, the Sheriff’s Office should be notified so the most effective response can be coordinated.

How will I know when the road where I live will be plowed/sanded/de-iced?
Call the Curry County Road Department at (541) 247-7097. If radio contact can be established between our office and the field crews, we will give you an estimated time for service.

Does the County use salt on the roads?
No. Curry County Road Department uses Magnesium Chloride for de-icing as a preventative strategy. The de-icer is used on some of our roads and bridges to prevent ice and light snow from bonding to the road surface. Unlike salt, Magnesium Chloride is less corrosive to vehicles and is not damaging to roadside vegetation.